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in these international rivalries, to think of other people as inferior, to talk of their defects and to forget their virtues. And it is that temper which has been at the root of every great war that has stained the earth with blood."

Brevities.

. . . The signing of a treaty of arbitration between Great Britain and Portugal was announced by King Edward at the state banquet at Windsor Castle on November 16. The treaty, which is identical with the Anglo-French treaty of October 14, 1903, was given to the public on November 19.

. . . On the first day of November, at the State Department at Washington, Secretary Hay and the French Ambassador, Mr. Jusserand signed a treaty of arbitration between the United States and France. Though the text of the agreement has not yet been made public, it is said to be substantially the same as that of the Anglo-French treaty of October last.

. . . On November 21, at the State Department at Washington, Secretary Hay and Mr. Probst, the Swiss *chargé d'affaires*, signed an arbitration treaty on behalf of the United States and Switzerland. It follows the lines of the Franco-American treaty.

. . . The third of the arbitration treaties which the United States government has been negotiating with European countries, that with Germany, was signed by Secretary Hay and the German Ambassador, Baron von Sternberg, on the 22d of November.

. . . On the 23d of November a fourth treaty of arbitration was added to those mentioned above, namely one between the United States and Portugal, signed by Secretary Hay and Viscount de Altre. The treaty is reported to be identical in terms with the others which Mr. Hay has signed.

. . . Peru and Brazil have signed a treaty for the adjustment by arbitration of the claims growing out of the settlement of the Acre Boundary dispute.

. . . A dispatch from Berne, November 25, said that Switzerland had already signed treaties of arbitration with the United States, Great Britain and Italy, and was about to sign one with Sweden and Norway.

. . . A dispatch from St. Petersburg, November 28, stated that the Russian government had accepted the invitation of the United States to conclude an arbitration treaty on the lines of the American-French treaty. The American proposal was in the form of a note from Secretary Hay, which was presented personally to Foreign Secretary Lamsdorff by Mr. Eddy, the American *Chargé d'Affaires*. Mr. Lamsdorff accepted in principle the text of the treaty, to which his government would propose slight modifications. This is Russia's first acquiescence to an arbitration treaty with a foreign power.

. . . The Franco-Venezuelan Commission to adjust the French claims against Venezuela will sit in the United States, and possibly at Northfield, Mass. The sittings will probably begin in about a month, and the issues to be tried cover over eight millions of dollars.

. . . Dr. Thomas Barclay, ex-president of the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris, well known for his earnest labors in bringing about the conclusion of the Anglo-French arbitration treaty and in the general amelioration of Anglo-French relations, has been knighted by King Edward for these eminent services. It will be remembered that more than a year ago the French government made Frederic Passy, the eminent French apostle of peace, Commander of the Legion of Honor, in recognition of his distinguished services.

. . . The Chilean government has recently signed contracts for the construction of a railroad through the Andes mountains which will bind that country to the Argentine Republic by direct railway communication. The contracts amount to six and three-quarter millions of dollars. That sounds like a big sum for a short piece of railway. But it only equals four days cost of the war now going on between Japan and Russia.

. . . The North Sea treaty for the submission of the Dogger Bank affair to an international commission of inquiry was signed at St. Petersburg on November 25 by Mr. Lamsdorff, the Russian Foreign Minister and Mr. Hardinge, the British Ambassador.

. . . For the erection of the Palace of Peace, for which Andrew Carnegie has given the funds, the Netherlands government has purchased a plot of ground adjoining the wood lying between The Hague and Schevening, and the work begins at once.

. . . Press of matter in our last issue caused us to omit mention of an important meeting in the interests of international arbitration held in Mechanics' Hall, Boston, on the 20th of October. It was in connection with the Fair of the United Commercial Travelers of America. The peace meeting had been organized at the suggestion of Miss Elizabeth Foster of Boston. The meeting was presided over by Hon. Henry L. Higginson, and the speakers were Hon. John D. Long, Rev. Edward Everett Hale and Mr. Elwyn G. Preston, Secretary of the Boston Chamber of Commerce.

The News of War.

BY MARY L. CUMMINS.

Thirty thousand men swept away—
Thus comes the dirge from afar,
Thirty thousand on one dread day—
This is the news of war.

Thirty thousand desolate homes,
With women and babes who weep,
Weep for the thirty thousand souls,
Gone to their long, long sleep.

Gone? Cut down without time for thought
Of the God whom they have to face,
With never a friendly hand to mark
Their lonely resting place.

Land is dear bought with the price of blood,
And the breaking of human hearts,
And heavy, indeed, the price we pay
To heal a nation's smarts.

And lightly we deal out human life
 To aid in a nation's greed,
 A toll of thirty thousand lives
 Laid down without thought of meed.

And one day's toll! That God's bright sun
 Should rise on such ghastly sight,
 And men who own and bear His name
 Do not rise in their moral might!

Oh, meek and lowly Lord of Peace!
 Whose "blessed" was great for those
 Who sought to bring ease to the nation's strife,
 And an end to human woes,

Help us to earn that great reward
 Which thou hast said will be given,
 Blessed are they who make peace on earth
 "For theirs is the kingdom of Heaven."

Letter of Andrew Carnegie to the Peace Congress.

SKIBO CASTLE, DORNOCH, SUTHERLAND,
 September 27, 1904.

Dear Mr. President:—I much regret missing the meeting of the International Peace Conference. Since we have at last in the Hague Tribunal a permanent High Court for the settlement of international disputes, more and more my thoughts turn upon the next possible and necessary step forward to an agreement by certain powers to prevent appeals to war by civilized nations.

Suppose, for instance, that Britain, France, Germany and America, with such other minor States as would certainly join them, were to take that position, prepared, if defied, to enforce peaceful settlement, the first offender (if there ever were one) being rigorously dealt with, war would at one fell swoop be banished from the earth. For such a result, surely the people of these four countries would be willing to risk much. The risk, however, would be trifling. A strong combination would efface it altogether. I think this one simple plan most likely to commend itself to the intelligent masses. A committee might be formed to consider this. If a body of prominent men of each nation agreed to unite in urging the coöperation of their respective countries in the movement, I think the idea would soon spread.

One cannot imagine for our Republic a prouder position than that of pioneer in such a task—she who has been foremost in urging arbitration, first also to urge five important powers to submit their differences to the Court of Peace. Nor can I imagine more fitting apostles to urge this upon the powers than our present Secretary of State, who is to honor you at the coming meeting in Boston, and our present President, who recently led the powers to The Hague. Having secured a permanent court for the settlement of international disputes, the time seems ripe for the same agencies to consider the one step further needed to complete the work.

Very truly yours, always for peace,
 ANDREW CARNEGIE.

Compulsory Arbitration and the Hague Court.

Ex-Ambassador White's Opinion.

Hon. Andrew D. White addressed the following letter, dated Ithaca, N. Y., October 15th, to Hon. Oscar S. Straus of New York, one of the American members of the Hague Tribunal, in response to the latter's invitation that he should be present at the reception in New York to the foreign delegates who attended the International Peace Congress in Boston. The main thought embodied in it is what Mr. White would have urged at the Boston Congress, had it been possible for him to be present.

"The funeral of Governor Cornell, which occurs on the day of your welcoming the delegates to the Peace Congress, and duties connected with laying the cornerstone of the Goldwin Smith Hall of this University, forbid me to accept your very kind invitation. I regret this greatly, and all the more because, while valuing highly the impulse that the recent Congress at Boston has given to earnest thought on the subject of peace, I feel that there may be need of a word of warning.

"You have doubtless noticed that, in sundry recent utterances and publications inspired by horror of war, there occur demands for compulsory arbitration between nations. This I think that all who have given really thoughtful attention to the probabilities and possibilities involved must sincerely regret. Compulsory arbitration would mean vastly larger armies than any the world has ever seen. It would demand a union of all great powers in matters of the greatest moment to each and all of them, matters on which there may be the greatest differences of view and interest; it would require that this union be made speedy and effective, possibly with enormous cost of life and treasure, and in every case with great sacrifices of feelings and prejudices such as thus far in the world's history have never been obtained.

"We have only to imagine an actual attempt to put this doctrine of compulsory arbitration into force to see how utterly impracticable it is, and how dangerous it would be if it were practicable. Take the frightful war now going on between two great powers on the western shores of the Pacific Ocean. What nations could bring an army into the field which would compel a cessation of the contest? Imagine a war (which heaven forbid!) between ourselves and one of our neighbors, or of any continental power with any of its neighbors; what combination of other nations could bring an army which would impose peace upon the combatants? It would certainly be unfortunate if any eloquent lovers of peace should divert attention from voluntary international arbitration and its subsidiary instrumentalities which actually exist to a scheme so impracticable as to bring all advocates of peace into derision.

"The first work to be done is evidently to create a public opinion throughout the world which will make the great mass of mankind in every civilized country a unit in favor of demanding from their respective governments arbitration rather than war. The simple fact, which the world at large does not yet realize, but which it ought to be the first mission of all meetings in behalf of peace to make known, is that an international tribunal of arbitra-